

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 017258
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 R

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM VELIOTES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, IS

SUBJECT: CAMPAIGN IN U.S. TO AID SAMI ESMAIL

1. WE ARE CABLING YOU SEPARATELY ON JANUARY 20 MEETING
HERE WITH SAMI ESMAIL'S SUPPORTERS. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE
THAT BASSIM ESMAIL, SAMI'S BROTHER, PRESENTED AFFIDAVIT TO
DEPARTMENT AT MEETING CONTAINING INTER ALIA FOLLOWING
ALLEGATION. BEGIN TEXT.

ON DECEMBER 29TH, AT 10:00 A.M., I WENT TO THE AMERICAN
EMBASSY AND SPOKE WITH MR. JAMES KERR, JR., THE AMERICAN
CONSUL, AND COMPLAINED ABOUT SAMI HAVING BEEN SUBJECTED TO
TORTURE BY THE ISRAELI POLICE AND GAVE HIM THE DETAILS.
HE REQUESTED THAT I WRITE A WRITTEN REPORT WHICH I DID AND
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I ASKED THAT HE SEND IT TO BOTH THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND
THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AND ISSUE A PROTEST. MR. KERR
STATED THAT HE WOULD SEND THE REPORT TO THE STATE DEPART-
MENT BUT HE ADVISED ME AGAINST REQUESTING A PROTEST TO THE
ISRAELI GOVERNMENT. WHEN I ASKED HIM WHY, HE STATED, "THEY
WOULD PROBABLY TORTURE YOUR BROTHER MORE IF WE SENT IT."
"BESIDES," MR. KERR SAID, "WHAT GOVERNMENT DOESN'T TORTURE

ITS PRISONERS?" END TEXT.

2, BASSIM ESMAIL AT MEETING ALSO ASSERTED ORALLY THAT KERR

HAD TOLD HIM HE KNEW OF SPECIFIC INSTANCES OF USE OF
TORTURE BY POLICE IN U.S., SUCH AS IN GEORGIA.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHAT KERR ACTUALLY SAID. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE017258
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WBSMITH:EI
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780033-0297
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780136/aaaabeof.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 480a25e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS, ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS, ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3734273
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CAMPAIGN IN U.S. TO AID SAMI ESMail
TAGS: OGEN, IS
To: TEL AVIV
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/480a25e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014